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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--George Tuzil (Schaumburg) was a First Team All-Mid-Continent Conference center for Eastern Illinois University's football Panthers who reached the NCAA I-AA quarterfinals.

A senior and four year letterman, Tuzil started every game at center for the No. 5 ranked Panthers who finished 11-1-1.

They were eliminated by Tennessee State 20-19 last Saturday (Dec. 4) in a quarter-final game after EIU had advanced with a 16-13 first round win over Jackson State.

"George was a very consistent player for us . . . he called our blocking schemes for the line and did an excellent job," said offensive coordinator Chuck Dickerson.

Three times Tuzil was chosen the segment 'player of the game' by the coaching staff.

"We set a number of school records for offense and all the linemen deserve considerable credit. They gave Jeff Christensen (quarterback) good protection and committed few off-side and illegal procedure penalties so we didn't beat ourselves."

This was the third time in the past five years the Panthers have competed in a post-season tournament. During this stretch EIU, under the direction of Head Coach Darrell Mudra, has a 47-15-1 record, best among Illinois' seven universities that are Division I or I-AA.